



# National Brownfields Assessment Pilot

## *High Point, NC*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

**EPA's** Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower States, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Between 1995 and 1996, EPA funded 76 National and Regional Brownfields Assessment Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. EPA is funding more than 27 Pilots in 1997. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, States, Tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

### OVERVIEW

EPA has selected the City of High Point as a Brownfields Pilot. As one of North Carolina's leading industrial centers, High Point maintains an extensive furniture manufacturing industry. The city has undertaken efforts to establish an industrial redevelopment program in the West Macedonia Revitalization Area, southeast of the central business district. The area is characterized by vacant, under-used, and deteriorating industrial buildings, small clusters of blighted residential dwellings, and an abundance of undeveloped land.

Redevelopment within the industrial portion of the West Macedonia Revitalization Area has been limited. Opportunities for redevelopment have been hampered by both the availability of ample "greenfield" sites outside of the city, and by known or suspected environmental contamination resulting from previous furniture and textile production. Experts from the University of North Carolina's Center for the Study of Social Issues will join the city in managing the pilot and conducting economic market analyses.

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



*High Point, North Carolina*

**Date of Award:**  
April 1997

**Amount:** \$200,000

**Site Profile:** The pilot area will center on the West Macedonia Revitalization Area, southeast of downtown High Point.

### Contacts:

H. Lewis Price  
City of High Point  
(910) 883-3289

Barbara Dick  
U.S. EPA - Region 4  
(404) 562-8923  
dick.barbara@  
epamail.epa.gov

Visit the EPA Brownfields Website at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

## OBJECTIVES

High Point's goals are to revitalize the West Macedonia Revitalization Area and develop a model for addressing brownfields sites. The pilot will help the city to assess brownfields sites, plan site cleanup, and foster opportunities for public/private partnerships.

## ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this pilot include:

- Conducting an environmental assessment of vacant industrial properties;
- Determining the feasibility of private redevelopment and revitalization of brownfields sites within the pilot area, and determining the potential of reclaimed property for various industrial and service-related uses;
- Developing innovative approaches for redevelopment of brownfields sites;
- Expanding the City's community-based planning and community involvement program; and
- Identifying potential workforce needs once redevelopment takes place.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.